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... our toast for the month of March, reflecting the condition and choice of used vahicles in

of used vehicles in our new month's list. Setra Quality. Setra Performance. Setra Support. All the very best!

- \$\frac{1}{2}\text{ for the conditions}\$
 \$\$ 1994 Scania K113/Van Hool \text{Triaxle. Centre toilet, coffee machine, } \text{Telma, ABS, video, 2 monitors, air conditioning, 48/51 "Royal" seats. } \text{New MOT in excellent condition.}\$
- ♦ 1994 Volvo B10/M Plaxion
 Premier 3500 50 reclining seats,
 with seat belts, toilet, water boiler,
 T/Video, Redio/PA, air conditioning,
 foot rests, double glazed. Choice of 5.
 Long MOTs very good condition
 throughout.
- ♦ 1994 MAN Caetano Algarve II -35 recliners, courier seat, Radio/PA, wired for TV, driver, courier microphones. Full length rear exitlow mileage - sold with new MOT. In very good condition.
- MAN Engine, 49 recliners, courier.
 Toilet, kitchen, Voith retarder, ABS,
 Webasto, TV/Video, central locking,
 Radio/PA, fridge, lift and lower,
 driver's bunks, full air conditioning,
 aluminium wheels. Long MOTs in
 nice condition. Excellent touring
 vabicles
- ♦ 1992 Setra 5 215 HD (TORNADO) -MAN Engine, 55 recliners, courier seat, Voith retarder, ABS, lift and lower, central locking, fridge, Radio/PA, flotex covering to floors throughout, aluminium wheels. Long MOT - in lovely condition. Superb tourer.
- **Modern Contract Con

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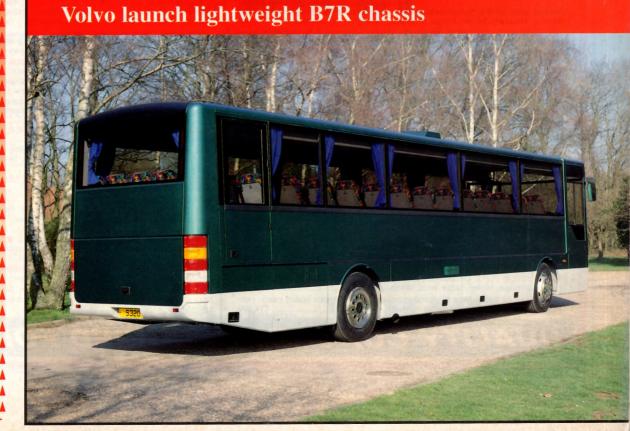
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91 MAN SETRA INTEGRAL 215 HD

ZF gearbox, 49R+C, retarder, video, monitor, radio/PA/cassette, drivers bunk, drinks machine, refrigerator, centre sunken toilet & continental door



93 SCANIA K113 CRB **PLAXTON PREMIER 350**

G5772 gearbox, 49R+C, retarder, radio/PA/cassette, drivers bunk, drinks machine, continental door & centre sunken toilet



93 DAF MB230LT VAN HOOL **ALIZEE H**

ZF splitter gearbox, 49R+C, retarder, radio/PA/cassette, drinks machine, refrigerator, continental door & centre sunken toilet



93 VOLVO B10M PLAXTON PREMIERE 350

ZF gearbox, 49R+C, video/monitor, radio/PA/cassette, continental door and centre sunken toilet



91 LEYLAND TIGER CUMMINS PLAXTON 3500

ZF 6 speed gearbox, 53R+C, retarder, radio/PA/cassette and continental door



92 VOLVO B10M JONKHEERE DEAUVILLE

ZF gearbox, 49/53R+C, video/monitor, radio/PA/cassette, drinks machine, refrigerator, continental door & centre sunken toilet

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VOLVOS

1992 J VOLVO MARK III PLAXTON EXCALIBUR 350, 49/53 reclining seats, courier seat, centre demountable toilet, continental door, Telma, 'air conditioning, Webasto, boiler, fridge, d/glazed, radio/PA, TV.. Choice of 3 £95,000 1990 VOLVO B10M MARK III GL JONCKHEERE DEAUVILLE, 51 recliners, courier seat, rear sunken toilet/continental door, d/glazed, radio/PA..... £79,500 988 F VOLVO B10M JONCKHEERE 599, 51 reclining seats, courier seat, rear sunken toilet/continental door, double glazing, radio/PA.......£62,500 conditioning, d/glazed, Webasto telma, boiler, radio/PA, new 1984 VOLVO B10M PLAXTON PARAMOUNT 3500, 53 reclining seats, courier seat, d/glazed, radio/PA, retrimmed, new stretch panels, repainted, new 1983 VOLVO B10M VAN HOOL ALIZEE, 49 reclining seats, courier seat centre sunken demountable toilet, radio/PA, immaculate £35,000

1983 VOLVO B10M PLAXTON PARAMOUNT 3500, 51 reclining seats, courier, double glazing, Webasto, radio + PA, belts fitted £27,500 £25,000

OTHERS

1995 M SCANIA K113 IRIZAR CENTURY, Triaxle, 49 reclining seats, courier seat, centre sunken toilet, power continental door, air conditioning, d/glazed, boiler, fridge, bunk, 2 x TV's, radio/PA,£162,500 1995 N IVECO 59/12, Cacciamali, 20 Fainsa seats, Webasto, Sutrak, air con, radio/pa/fridge, boiler, large boot, immaculate........................£45,000 4 L DAF LDV 400, Auto Classique conversion, 16 hi back coach seats, radio/PA/cassette, racks, white, low mileage......£14,000

1993 SCANIA K113 PLAXTON PREMIERE 350, 49/53 reclining seats, courier, auto transmission, ZF HP 600, centre demountable toilet, boiler/fridge, double glazing, ABS, Sutrak air conditioning, radio/PA etc. immaculate £107,500 £105,000 1991 PP ASQUITH, 11 seats, PSV, leather buttoned seats, full carpet, stainless steel grille batery bos, in mint condition, mileage only 28,000 miles. £19,000

1990 G DENNIS JAVELIN DUPLE 320, 53 reclining seats, rear sunken toilet-/continental door, radio/PA/curtains, belts, new repaint white............ £49,500 1988 BOVA FUTURA FHD, 49 reclining seats, courier seat, centre sunken toilet/continental door, d/glazed, Sutrak air conditioning, fridge, boiler, radio-£66,500

1987 LAG PANORAMIC, 49 retrimmed reclining seats, courier seat, centre

1986 C FORD R1014 PLAXTON PARAMOUNT 3200, 35 reclining seats, POD, radio/PA, recon engine£22,000

rear sunken toilet, continental door, d/glazed, boiler, radio/PA, TV moni-£27,500

DAF MB200 PLAXTON PARAMOUNT 3500, 49 retrimmed reclining seats, courier, rear sunken toilet, continental door, boiler, radio/PA, provision

IERCEDES 0303 JONCKHEERE BERMUDA, 51 reclining seats, courier seat, centre sunken toilet, continental door, radio/PA.....£19,000 1982 LEYLAND TIGER PLAXTON VI, 57 seater, radio PA £15,500

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BUS & COACH BUYER is published by Glen-Holland Ltd, The Publishing Centre, 1 Woolram Wygate, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE11 1NU.

Telephone: (01775) 711777. Fax: (01775) 711737 All correspondence to the above address. Editorial director: Stuart Jones; publishing director: Steve Cole; sales director: Joy Obborne, advertisement controller. Marin Lavefori, classified supervisor: Wendy Couling; classified telephone sales: Joanne Brown and Matt Bradford; technical editor: Martin Cole; production and administration executive: Sandy Brooks; national sales: Peter Naylor.

Peter Naylor.
A copy of Bus & Coach Buyer is mailed free to a list of over 5,800 UK bus, coach and minibus operators every week.
Bus & Coach Buyer is typeset by TYPEtec. County Hall,
Market Place, Boston, Lincoinshire PE21 6DV. Tel: (01205)
369560 and printed by the Manson Group Ltd, Hemel
Hempstead HP2 7BL.
© Copyright Glen-Holland Ltd. 1997
The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily

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Front Cover: UVG's new Unistar body design on the Dennis Javelin chassis provides operators with an attractive but inexpensive option when considering new vehicle purchases.

News

Stagecoach to develop new services in Glasgow

Stagecoach has announced its intention to develop new routes in the Greater Glasgow area. The group is investing an initial £10m in the operation which is expected to create 250 jobs over the next 12 months. The first express routes will commence on 24 April using lowfloor buses operated at high frequencies. Neil Renilson is to head the new venture and the vehicles will be drawn from the current delivery programme redirected from other group subsidiaries.

Brian Souter, chairman of Stagecoach Holdings, said: 'The recent Monopolies Commission decision requiring FirstBus to sell a part of its operations in Glasgow has demonstrated the Regulator's determination to encourage competition. We are responding to this with new innovative bus services in Strathclyde designed to attract new bus users by offering faster journey times and wider choice.'

The new services will depart from the recently completed Buchanan bus terminal and will make use of the motorway network for the 'express' aspect of the routes. is intended that an improved fare offer will be introduced, the 'super value Megarider ticket', which offers unlimited travel from just £4.00 per week. Neil Renilson confirmed that the operation would be marketed purely as Stagecoach and its initial fleet would consist of 20 Volvo B6LE Alexander ALX 200s and five Plaxton Premiere Inter-Urban Volvo B10Ms. He said, 'We expect this operation to expand rapidly and are planning for the fleet to increase to 150 by the end of the year. Glasgow has seen considerable investment in its motorway network and conventional services are still using the old routes which do not take advantage of fast links between the outlying areas and the city centre. Stagecoach intends to change this and to make the most of the opportunity which, combined with a very competitive fare strategy, should prove very attractive to new customers.



A Volvo B10BLE with Northern Counties body for Stagecoach Manchester.

Stagecoach take first Volvo B10BLE Northern Counties

A double first for Stagecoach Manchester has seen it take delivery of the first Volvo B10BLE chassis for the UK and the first examples of Northern Counties' new generation of accessible single deck bodywork. Five of the model have entered service on a route linking Manchester city centre and Ashton under Lvne.

Bravery awards for Brighton drivers.

Three bus drivers with **Brighton Transport have been** rewarded for their bravery following an incident on Saturday 8 February. Neil Wright was driving his number 10 bus along Lewes Road when he saw a 13 year old girl being assaulted by another passenger on the lower deck. He turned the bus round and drove back to the depot where Nigel Bulbeck and Galiun Robins helped him grab the suspect and call the police.

ing. It can take up to 45 seated passengers though Stagecoach Manchester has specified a 41 seat layout. The saloon floor is step free in the front section with two shallow steps ahead of the rear axle. Volvo's B10BLE chassis combines the rear section and drive train of the B10B with the B10L's electronically controlled independent front suspension (IFS), complete with disc brakes. This gives a low

The aluminium framed body has bonded aluminium

side panels and bonded glaz-

floor in the front section, the 320mm single step entrance height reducing to 230mm using the kneeling suspension. Volvo intends to make the IFS axle a standard city axle throughout the bus range.

The vehicles will undergo a comprehensive evaluation programme supported by the Volvo service centre at Manchester Truck & Bus, Stockport. 'We felt that this route would provide us with an ideal opportunity to evaluate what promises to be an attractive product,' said Stagecoach director, Barry Hinckley.

Brighton Transport chairman and managing director, Richard Clark presented the three with certificates recognising their outstanding service and also gave them gift vouchers at a ceremony at the company's head office. He commented, 'They went to the help of a young girl in a very distressing situation and we are very proud of their efforts. We want all our passengers to feel they can travel on our buses in complete safety and we think this has proved the point. They all did a marvellous job.'

VI launch JEDI

In a reversal of Starwars technology, instead of the Force being with the JEDI, the JEDI will now be with the Force! The Vehicle Inspectorate is to begin implementing its new Joint Enforcement Database Initiative (JEDI) from April. It will allow officers at roadside checks to gain instant access to details of an operator's Olicence, any convictions and annual test records. Information between the VI areas will be linked and incorporate the Traffic Areas. It is expected to be fully operational by Octo-

LT tenders

London General has made successful bids to retain five of its six contracts which have been offered by London Transport. The company maintains five year contracts on routes 14, N14, 39, 74 and 170. It relinquished a single contract, route 156, to Q-Drive Coaches (Limebourne).

Stagecoach Selkent was also successful in retaining a five year contract on route 314 and a new school service in New Addington has been awarded to Metrobus of Orpington. It has been numbered route 630 and will utilise double deckers.



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News

Stagecoach sell Huntingdon depot and MK operation.

Following the ruling by the Office of Fair Trading and Monopolies and Mergers Commission that Stagecoach should divest part of its Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire activities, the Milton Keynes operation and the United Counties depot at Huntingdon have been sold to Julian Peddle.

The take-over is expected to be concluded officially at the end of this month and the new acquisition will be run under the heading MK Metro. It will incorporate the former Milton Keynes Citybus operation and Buckinghamshire RoadCar. The deal currently includes MK Metro taking on all vehicles and staff although no announcement has yet been made on security of employment.

Mitchell replaces Westwell

Dr Alan Westwell, managing director of Greater Manchester Buses, is leaving FirstBus and is to be replaced by Dr Mike Mitchell, currently managing director of Grampian Transport. Dr Westwell had run the company since its acquisition, overseeing the smooth transition of GMB into the group. He joined the company in 1990 from Strathclyde Buses where he was chairman and chief executive, rescuing GMB from its financial difficulties through the introduction of a radical business plan. Later, with the support of the employees, he led GMB through the change which involved splitting the operation in half and its recent change of ownership. Alan commented, 'I consider it is now the appropriate time for me to direct my energy and interest towards another challenge.

Dr Mike Mitchell was formerly operations director of SMT in Edinburgh. He will continue as managing director in Aberdeen for an interim period and the major part of his role will be undertaken by George Mair, currently director and depot manager at Grampian Transport. He now becomes director and general manager.

Stagecoach complete **Burnley & Pendle** acquisition

Stagecoach has concluded the acquisition of Burnley Council's shares in Burnley & Pendle Transport Company after a lengthy period of negotiation. Pendle's shares were relinquished to Stagecoach some months ago but Burnley had held out to gain support and acceptance from its employees and the unions. Stagecoach says that the conclusion of the deal has been reached with all existing contracts, terms and conditions still applied.

Optare CoachSales launched

Optare has launched its own coach sales division which will be known as Optare CoachSales. The facility will handle the continued sales of Bova Futura 3.2 and 3.5 metre high coaches with either Cummins or DAF engines and a choice of ZF manual or automatic transmission. range of vehicles from basic 53 seaters to air conditioned executive specification coaches are currently in stock or for early delivery. Sales will be backed by a comprehensive range of finance packages which include short term hire, medium/long term rental, hire purchase and leasing. For further information contact Chris Gee or Bob Manton on 0113 2645182.

CPT quashes release of VI information

Proposals made in March 1996 to release Vehicle Inspectorate information to the public, on demand, have been quashed following strong representations made by the Confederation of Passenger Transport UK. The scheme would have made annual reports on roadworthiness and prohibition information available to anyone requesting it. Ministers at the Department of Transport decided the scheme would be inappropriate at this time but claim it may be considered in the future when the VI's computer system has been upgraded and fully developed.



1990 G TOYOTA OPTIMO CAETANO

18 seats + courier, radio/PA, seatbelts, livery blue MoT 17/7/97

1985 PP DENNIS DUPLE 425

55 seats, manual 6 speed gearbox, double glazed, rear floor mounted toilet, radio/PA. **MoT 18/2/98**

1990 PP DAF DHS 3000 VAN HOOL ALIZEE

51/55 seats, 7 speed ZF gearbox, double glazed, radio/PA, livery white/blue. Mot 15/11/97

1992 (J) SCANIA K93CR/273 PLAXTON PREMIERE 3200

53 seats, radio/PA/ cassette, double glazed, blinds to side windows, (lap type) seat belts. MoT 1998 Choice

1991 (H) VOLVO B10M MK III **273 BHP VAN HOOL ALIZEE**

49 seats + crew seat, toilet, servery. fridge, continental door, Telma,

radio/PA/cassette, double glazed, seat belts (lap type), seat belts. **MoT 6/12/97 Choice**

1991 (H) VOLVO B10M MK III 273 BHP VAN HOOL ALIZEE

53 seats + crew seat, radio/PA/cassette, Telma, double glazed, blinds to side windows, (lap type) seat belts. MoT 1998 Choice

1990 (G) VOLVO B10M MK III a273 BHP VAN HOOL ALIZEE 53 seats + crew seat, radio/PA/cassette, Telma, double glazed, blinds to side windows

(lap type) seat belts. MoT 1998 Choice

1989 (PP) MAN 16-290 JONCKHEERE DEAUVILLE

49 seats + crew seat, centre sunken toilet, Telma, servery, fridge, continental door, radio/PA /cassette, TV, Video, double glazed.

MoT 12/11/97

1992 (J) VOLVO B10M MKIII VAN **HOOL ALIZEE**

49 reclining seats, ZF 6 speed S690
manual gearbox, ABS braking system,
half rear emergency door, centre continental exit door, radio/PA system, centre mounted toilet, centre servery, centre crew compartment. MoT 3/12/97

1995 (M) SCANIA K113 CENTURY

49 seats, drivers bunk, comfort shift gearbox, double glazing, radio/PA system, , fridage, TV/video, rear sunken toilet, rear continental door. **MoT 2/04/97**

1989 (G) DAF SB2300 VAN HOOL ALIZEE

51 reclining seats, double glazed, drivers bunk, centre toilet, radio/PA system, 2 x TV's, livery white. MoT 28/06/97

1990 (G) LEYLAND PLAXTON TIGER 3200

50 reclining seats, 6 speed ZF gearbox, double glazed, toilet, radio/PA system,

drinks servery, white livery. MoT 16/12/97

1988 (F) DENNIS JAVELIN DUPLE 320 - Choice of 3

53 reclining seats, 6 speed ZF manual gearbox, brown moquette, power door, (one re-moquetted). MoT Sept/Oct 97

1984 (PP) LEYLAND PLAXTON TIGER 3200

48 reclining seats, semi-automatic gearbox, power door, toilet, radio/PA system, TV, drinks, livery white. MoT 17/01/98

1989 (F&G) LEYLAND TIGER - Choice of 3

55 seats + 24 standing, livery white, Alexander Belfast service bus body, Cummins L10, ZF automatic gearbox, Livery white. MoT Nov/Dec 97

1992 (J) SETRA TORNADO 215HD

Man engine, ZF 7 speed gearbox, 49 reclining seats and courier seat, sunken centre toilet, 2 TV monitors and video, radio/PA system, repainted white. MoT NEW

1983 (PP) MAN VAN HOOL ASTRON

57 reclining seats, new Graffiti moquette, twin deck videos, hot drinks machine, fridge, toilet, drivers bunk, reconditioned engine.

1994 (M) VOLVO B12R JONCKHEERE

<mark>71 seats + crew seat, air con, Telma,</mark> toilet, servery, video/TV, radio/PA/cassette, double glazed, alloy wheels, (lap type) seat belts, Low mileage. **MoT 6/08/97**



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1989 TOYOTA OPTIMO, 21 seats, crew seat, radio/tape, lift up armrests, tinted windows, curtains, interior grey / red, exterior ivory turquoise / blue. MoT 6/5/97.....

1988 BOVA FUTURA FHD, 49 recliners, crew seat, seat belts to all seats, air conditioning, centre sunken toilet, centre continental door, hot water boiler, fridge, double glazing, Peage window, radio/tape, interior brown/beige, exterior white/green/red, MoT10/3/98......£66,500

1987 BOVA FUTURA, 53 recliners, double glazing, radio / tape / PA, wired vide + monitor, curtains, drivers bunk area, interior red / grey exterior white / orange / grey. MoT 23/3/98.....£49,500

1986 (OCT) DAF MB200 PLAXTON PARAMOUNT 3200, 53 fixed seats (retrimmed), seat belts to all seats, tinted windows, exterior white, interior fawn / brown / orange / yellow stripes, MoT 25/6/97......£36,500

1980 FORD R1114 DUPLE DOMINANT II EXPRESS, 53 seats, power

door, red interior, white exterior. MOT 30/1/98 1979 VOLVO B58 PLAXTON SUPREME IV, 48 seats, rear toilet, Telma,

power door, MoT 20/3/98..... 1979 LEYLAND LEOPARD DUPLE DOMINANT EXPRESS, 49 seats, semi-automatic gearbox, power doors, exterior silver / yellow / red, MoT

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News

More Far Eastern success for Dennis

Dennis Specialist Vehicles currently has a £70 million order book for operators in Hong Kong, representing a total of 421 double deck vehicles. The orders are split between two new models, the low floor three axle Trident, and a new version of the long serving three axle Dragon design which, like the Trident, has a Cummins M11 engine. These are the first M11 applications in European built chassis, and are mounted in line at 305bhp in the Trident and transversely at 250bhp in the Dragon.

The bulk of the vehicles, close to 350 in total, will be delivered to Kowloon Motor Bus (KMB) and will include both Tridents and Dragons with a mixture of Duple Metsec and Walter Alexander bodies. Tridents will also be delivered to Citybus Hong Kong, while China Motor Bus (CMB) will take a further batch of Dragons. Deliveries from Guildford will start next month.

Roger Heard, sales and marketing director, commented, 'With the Trident we are now taking the lead in the supply of accessible double deckers, which we believe will ultimately strengthen our position as a supplier of buses to mainland China, where demand for transport is growing rapidly.'

CPT announce Enforcement Conference

A conference on enforcement, called 'Enforcement for Quality,' is being organised by the Confederation of Passenger Transport UK. It is scheduled for 25 June 1997 and will be held at the QEII Conference Centre in Westminster. The aim is to address enforcement policy, practice and problems, across a broad front of agencies. Ron Oliver of the VI will be the keynote speaker and representatives of ACPO, Traffic Commissioners. Department of Transport. Trading Standards and Health & Safety will be contributing. Full details of the timetable, subjects and cost will be issued soon but operators should be aware that places will be limited.

EYMS buy Kingstonian Travel and launch National Holidays

Hull based EYMS Group has confirmed its acquisition of Travel, from Kingstonian Stagecoach Kingston upon Hull, for an undisclosed sum. The deal includes eight coaches, six Volvo and two Dennis, most of which will be absorbed by East Yorkshire Motor Services. Six drivers and two managers have also transferred to EYMS' Hull depot. No other assets or property were included in the sale but EYMS takes over Kingstonian's customer list.

Stagecoach has dropped all its coaching operations in the Hull area with the exception of the X62 express service, operated jointly by Stagecoach and East Yorkshire, between Hull and Leeds. EYMS Group joint managing director, Peter Shipp, said: 'I know that Kingstonian established itself well in the Hull area since its formation by KHCT in the early 80s. It clearly brings with it some customer lovalty and we shall be retaining the name on at least some of the coaches for the time being.

At the same time, EYMS's holiday coach tours division, East Yorkshire Travel, has been re-branded as National Holidays. This coincides with the publication of the company's largest ever brochure containing over 1,000 departures from the Hull area alone. Holiday clients have increased rapidly from 8,000 in 1992 to over 100,000 in 1996. The name change is intended to assist in promoting a common brand for the holidays which now operate from bases in Hull, Stockton, Newcastle and Manchester, with departures from many other areas. The fleet now incorporates over 60 coaches, recently augmented by the acquisition of Newcastle based Armstrong Galley, and is being upgraded with the purchase of 20 new vehicles. The new livery of white, orange and blue has been applied to some of the vehicles and the remainder should be finished by early summer. The company says it took orders worth over £250,000 in one day at the East Yorkshire Travel Fair on 2 March.

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M.O.T. JULY 1997

M.O.T. JULY 1997

1987 (May) MERCEDES 307D

12 seats, grey/red/orange striped moquette, overhead luggage racks, radio and PA tape, finished all white. M.O.T. JANUARY 1998

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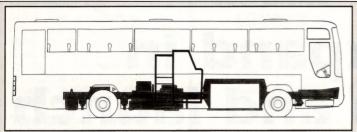
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News



The new Dennis Javelin chassis variation to accommodate centre sunken toilets.

Centre toilets for Javelins

Dennis Specialist Vehicles has developed a version of its Javelin coach chassis which can accommodate a centre sunken toilet compartment and continental exit door. An

order for ten coaches with this new arrangement has just been completed for Pemico Travel of London. The alterations to the section of the modular Javelin chassis include lengthening the rear module and shortening the centre section.



One of four new Wright bodied Volvo B10L low floor buses introduced by Travel Dundee on services 18 and 19.

Travel Dundee launches easy access routes

Travel Dundee, formerly Tayside Buses and now part of the National Express Group, has launched its first easy access bus routes using four Wright bodied Volvo B10L single deckers in the company's new red, white and blue livery. The services concerned are the 18 and 19 linking Kirkton to the city centre.

Jack Henry, chief executive of Travel Dundee said, 'The new vehicles confirm our commitment to upgrade the Travel Dundee fleet. We intend to improve customer comfort and we aim to give first class service. Mothers with toddlers in buggies or carrying heavy shopping will be among the first to benefit from the spacious design, as will people with mobility difficulties.'

Similar vehicles will shortly be introduced on Dundee's 32 and 33 services linking Fintry with the city centre and the 15 and 17 services between Whitfield the city centre and Ninewells Hospital.

Rally update

A first time exhibitor at the forthcoming UK Coach Rally to be held on the weekend of 19/20 April in Brighton is Fleetmaster Bus & Coach of Horsham. It will be showing a Leyland National Mark 1 equipped with a new Cummins B series engine and Allison AT545 automatic transmission. As part of a thorough refurbishment the vehicle has had the pod removed, a new heating system installed, a full retrim and new flooring. The company will be represented by engineering sales director, Mark Stephenson and MD, Steve Swain, who will also be able to provide more details about the company's soon to be launched self drive hire fleet which will offer well presented mid life vehicles.

East Lancs will also be showing a coach seated Cityzen double deck body on a Scania chassis from the fleet of the Brighton & Hove Bus Co.

Anyone requiring more information on how to enter the Rally should contact Ann or Paul Cousins of Coach Displays Ltd on 0181 581 0049. For trade enquiries contact Mark Griffin on 01926 888123 or fax 01926 888004.

NFBU-Optare Awards

Regional award ceremonies for the Welcome Aboard Awards, presented by the National Federation of Bus Users and Optare, are to be concluded at Optare's Manston Lane headquarters in Leeds, following three regional finals. Area A: the southeast and central south regions will hold its final on 27 March at the Royal Pavil-

ion, Brighton; Area B, the midlands, southwest and Wales, hold their final on 3 April at City Hall Cardiff; and Area C, Northern Ireland, Northeast, Northwest and Scotland hold their event on 10 April at the Palace Hotel, Manchester. The national final at Leeds has been set for 22 April. The scheme was started to reward bus companies and individuals who have given exceptional service to their customers.

Bridge bashing measures

New regulations are being introduced by the Department of Transport to reduce the number of accidents involving high vehicles hitting bridges. All vehicles over three metres high are to be required to have either a sign in the driver's cab showing the overall travelling height of the vehicle or, documents in the cab giving details of the routes to be taken which show that the vehicle can complete the journey without any risk of collid-

ing with a bridge or any other low overhead structure.

The amendments to the Road vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations are being made following public consultations in 1992 and 1995. Of 1101 bridge strikes in 1995 about 30 involved buses, including double deckers. Commenting, Road Safety Minister, John Bowis, said, 'I hope the new regulations, together with existing measures and the co-operation of hauliers and operators, will make bridge-bashing a thing of the past.



Vehicle Launch

Volvo expand in South Africa and launch the lightweight B7R

Volvo Bus Corporation called a World Press Conference in South Africa on 6 March to discuss its market position and outline plans for expansion in one of the most potentially lucrative new markets in the southern hemisphere. The event took place on the back of Volvo's own corporate marketing conference in Capetown and was followed by the launch of a new multipurpose, lightweight bus/coach chassis, the B7R.

Manufacturers have been quick to respond to South African requirements and are poised to begin major operations in a country that has been starved of imports and outside investment through embargoes placed to counter apartheid. Since the political revolution and ensuing installation of President Mandela and his administration, trade barriers have been removed and opportunities for outside manufacturers have become established.

Volvo began its approach two years ago by forming a venture in Johannesburg called Volvo Bus & Truck. This has resulted in significant interest from hauliers and a number of orders from private bus and coach operators and the recent completion of an order for 100 B10Ms



Built by Swedish Bus Distributors, this B7R has been designed for the South African Market. Split front windscreens are essential because of the poor roads in some areas and frequent damage from flying stones.

for Johannesburg. Alongside the importation of chassis has come the establishment of Swedish Bus Distributors, a facility to build bodies locally, using adaptations of bodies designed in Scandinavia and production systems developed by Saffle.

Bjorn Larsson, Volvo's president and chief executive officer, announced that the group was the only one of the top four manufacturers to have increased its global market share in 1996. Top performer Mercedes Benz had maintained its position but sales had dropped by

2.0%. Volvo had second place overall, with sales up 8.0%. Hino were placed third but with sales down 10% and Scania fourth with a 13% drop. He said the world market had shrunk by 4.0% overall and was delighted by Volvo's performance in a declining situation.

Quantifying sales of Volvo units, he confirmed the UK and Eire as the company's largest market, taking 24.2% of production, whilst Latin America came close behind with 20.3% and the rest of Europe absorbed 15.5%. Other markets, such as North America. China and Asia

were performing well and showed great potential for the future.

Predicting a change to fewer, but more powerful, customers in the future, as many smaller operators were being incorporated into larger groups, he believed there would be a need for more manufacturers to merge so that it would end up with just three or four major players. He claimed this course was inevitable because manufacturing required the highly competitive economies of scale that could only be achieved in this manner. It would put less strain on investment in product development, lead to shorter introduction cycles, provide cheaper sourcing of materials and allow higher investment in production techniques with local adaptations and local supply for finished product. He claimed there would be 'family ideas' for vehicles based on two main concepts: the aluminium framed buses developed in Sweden, Den-mark and the UK; and for buses with Finnish developed bodies with steel/stainless steel frameworks for other markets

Volvo's growth strategy was described as a drive for increased market share which would be achieved through



Luggage space is acceptable considering the low body height of the Camo B7R.



A Volvo B12T with South African TFM bodywork operated by Atlas.

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establishing new, innovative ideas and acquisitions. The main challenge for 1997 was seen as the production of 9.000 units and the expansion of its 50 separate markets around the world, represented through outlets in 45 countries

The Volvo B7R

Held in conjunction with the World Press Conference was the launch of Volvo's new B7R chassis. This has been designed as a cost-effective, multi-purpose product to expand global business for the company. It is aimed at inter-city bus and coach operation in Europe with a number of options available to suit broad applications. It features a lightweight chassis design, utilising some truck components, a seven litre D7 engine with power ratings from 230 to 285 bhp, large brakes and a range of transmission options.

Volvo claimed products like the B7R would help create value for the customer because, as a manufacturer, it was in the company's interests for its customers to be profitable. The B7R had been two and a half years in devel-opment and been through 750,000 Km of endurance testing. As such, its core values, Volvo believe, lie in its robust, heavy duty construction, reliability through the use of proven components, durability from testing and safety through well dimensioned S-Cam operated brakes and a retarder option.

Approach and departure angles on the B7R have been much improved over the standard B7 and it has a short rear overhang of 3075mm for stability. Wheelbases of 3250mm. 5300mm and 6300mm are available, which means shorter versions of the chassis, down to 10.5 metres overall can be ordered. A 12 metre chassis weighs just 5510 Kg and is rated at 17.5 tonnes GVW. Its design allows for double doors to be fitted at the front and mid positions of the chassis and for a single unit at the rear if required increasing its flexibility for bus operations in developing countries.

Globally the B7R will be available with conventional parabolic springing or with air suspension. Units bound for the UK are likely to be air suspended only but secrecy over the vehicle's existence has

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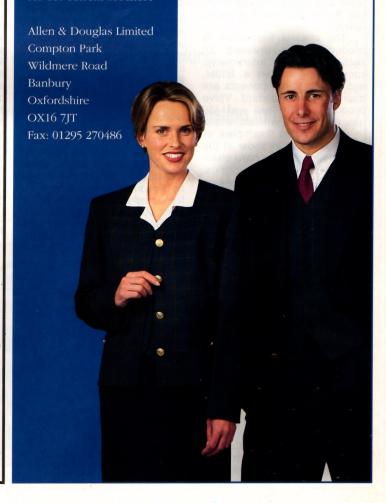
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Vehicle Launch

precluded Volvo Truck & Bus UK from questioning potential customers about their requirements. As it is, the vehicle will not be available until later this year and is almost certainly to be given its first public airing at Coach & Bus '97. Although there has been no indication of a UK bodybuilder or of any price for the chassis, it is likely that Volvo will take advantage of its simplicity and allow the B7R to fill a competitive sector at the lower end of the market.

On the face of it, the B7R appears to be a modern replacement for the lightweight chassis formerly produced by Ford and Bedford. but brought up to date and with the benefit of proven reliability, good fuel economy and low emissions. Sandy Glennie, managing director of Volvo Truck & Bus, admitted the chassis was less sophisticated than the middleweight Dennis Javelin and believed it would make an ideal option for operators looking at vehicles for general duties, contracts and excursions. although he maintained it was not the sort of coach he wanted to see loaded to its maximum and being used on shuttles to the South of France or Spain.

The chassis framework is produced from pressed 'U' section steel, instruments come straight from a B10M, and the other components are mainly from standard Volvo products. There are just 150 new ones in the whole chassis.

Two bodied examples of the B7R were on show at the launch alongside a bare chassis with conventional springs. One was a 12 metre version with Portuguese coachwork by Camo, the other bore a produced locally body designed specifically for the African markets. The Camo was equipped with 55 Fainsa reclining seats, air conditioning and video equipment. Measurements were available but the body was not particularly high and this reflected in there being rather limited depth to the full length luggage racks.

Light fabrics chosen for the interior trim ensured a 'cool' ambience to the saloon, which appeared very attractive although perhaps difficult to keep clean. Two large central luggage lockers were accessible from both sides of the coach and provided an acceptable stowage space.



The Volvo B7R chassis with the vertical, in-line D7 engine.

Journalists were not permitted to drive either example but were taken for a brief run through the wine producing area of Stellenbosch, to the north of Capetown. This was too brief to gain any sort of real insight into the B7R's attributes but it appeared to have a reasonable amount of power, stopped very well and gave a comfortable ride at the front of the coach. Passengers in the rear were less enthusiastic and felt the engine noise was a little excessive. But as this was still a very early production model there is plenty of time to address the sound proofing.

The South African built body was fitted with an alternative seating arrangement which allowed the installation of a rear saloon toilet, servery and refrigerator. It was also air conditioned. Some passengers felt the entrance steps on both examples were too steep to suit European markets but Volvo claimed a minor chassis modification was all that would be required to bring it in line with requirements. A lowered frame can be specified which drops the front step height 180mm at the front door.

Gearbox options on the B7R include Volvo's own G8

EGS or MGS, the ZF S 6-85 or 4HP 500 automatic, or the Voith D863.3 automatic. Each of the gearboxes give the B7R a range of different ratios for every gear but all have the same 1:1 final ratio. A Telma 191 electronic retarder is available for those choosing the ZF S 6-85 manual gearbox but customers opting for the Volvo G8 MGS can fit the Telma 2200.

South African Transport Policy

The new government in the Republic of South Africa has produced a White Paper on national transport policy. It sets out the goals and objectives for achieving a properly integrated transport infrastructure which it hopes to reach by promoting inter-modalisation between providers - either state owned or private - shared information and minimal regulation from the Department of Transport. It intends that modal choices will be based on cost, timeliness, reliability, security or any other determining factors so that decisions can be fostered by incentives and not by regulation. Inherent in this is the idea that customers should not be forced to use

existing spare capacity.

A major problem with the implementation of such ideals appears to stem from the rapid reforms being implemented by the Mandela administration. There is little doubt that efforts to get the economy moving and finding gainful employment for many black South Africans, plus the installation of a benefit system, has put a great strain on available funding.

The swift change from apartheid and racial segregation will not be fully accepted for some time and there are distinct security problems for people travelling by public transport. One of the main drawbacks to running commercial services is the development of illegal taxi bus operations which have got out of hand. These are prevalent in all major conurbations, even Capetown, which has been the most tolerant of all the South African communities thanks to its multi-racial multi-cultural society which stems from its position as a sea port.

Some taxi buses operate quite legally but they are outnumbered by illegal operators whose drivers are often unlicensed and the vehicles untaxed, uninsured, and completely unroadworthy. Such has been the state of anarchy in the country that competitors have not been averse to attacking each others' vehicles, often by ambushing them with automatic rifles. They generally carry excessive numbers of passengers, often 20 or 25 in place of the 14 to 16 allowed, and are extremely unsafe.

Capetown's official state owned bus company does not have the capacity to service all the requirements of the locality and we saw no modern buses in evidence at all. The bulk of the vehicles are aged Leyland/Guy Victory double or single deckers. Apart from a smattering of old Mercedes Benz buses run privately, this is the sum total of local transport to and from the city and the townships.

More recently a National Taxi Task Team has been established to weed out the offenders. This is, apparently, quite effective but has only just begun to scratch the surface. Similarly, special police units are attempting to apprehend wrongdoers but the incidence of illegal operation is so high that they are also



Instruments in the B7R come directly from the B10M.



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1983 BEDFORD YNT LAZER, 53 seater

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1980 BEDFORD YNT DUPLE DOMI II, 53 seats

1976 LEYLAND LEOPARD PLAXTON SUPREME, 53 seats

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Vehicle Launch

making little headway at present. Operators caught and prosecuted are often out of jail in just two weeks and back in action by hi-jacking a new vehicle or purchasing it fraudulently.

During our visit to South Africa we enjoyed a breakfast meeting with Sihisisu Bhutelezi, the personal assistant to transport minister Mac Maharaj in Johannesburg. Gauteng Province. He said the Department had been assessing Italian commuter rail systems and intended establishing a similar system from 1 April. He was pleased to announce that public transport subsidy was being increased by 20% each year and money would eventually become available for what was a totally impractical system which had been starved of investment and upgrading. He claimed they had received much practical assistance from representatives of the Argentinian rail services in their quest for progress.

On the subject of buses, he was pleased that the investment in 100 Volvo B10M buses had been completed. over a two year period, and they were assisting in getting people out of cars and back onto public transport. Mr Bhutelezi pointed out that although the project had been successful, budgets were very tight and not assisted by excessive import tax of 60% on foreign vehicles. He saw the way around this as working partnerships with manufacturers providing facilities for building locally, creating inward investment and jobs.

While this sounded positive he was less convincing when he claimed that vehicle investments should see a return of 20 years active service life, and less convincing still when he said they were encouraging investment of this nature from Indian manufacturer Tata. It seemed that ongoing maintenance costs were not being properly considered but Mr Bhutelezi was very attentive to responses given by European journalists and absorbed a great deal of information on running modern fleets in Europe.

He closed by outlining the Department's efforts at enforcing some regulation on illegal operation across all forms of transport, ranging from blatant overloading where some trucks had been found to be 36 tonnes over



The new Volvo B7R with a European styled Camo body.

their maximum legal payload, to registration for all taxi bus operators. This he put at 10,000 Rands per annum (7.1 Rand approximately = £1) plus a daily tax of two Rands. He believed this to be substantial enough to pay for administration and enforcement but not excessive enough to deprive operators of earning a reasonable living.

Fraudulent operation of vehicles was still an ongoing problem in state owned companies, he admitted. Much of the established management had left hurriedly when reforms were announced by the new Metropolitan Council and checks on vehicles revealed that a great deal of private (i.e. undeclared) private hires, had been carried out in addition to the creation of falsified records. Typical frauds had included examples where a group of people were supposedly picked up for a 60 Km run to the Johannesburg Zoo at 60 Rands per head. Mileage checks revealed the vehicle had more likely been used on an 800 Km trip to Sun City with passengers being charged 85 to 90 Rands per head, leaving a substantial rake off for the driver and



Sibisisu Bhutelezi, personal assistant to the Minister for Transport.

manager to share. Such problems have taken 20 months to unrayel.

Problems still existing today have seen some of the new Volvo B10Ms disappear at weekends on private jaunts and come back badly damaged, obviously having been used down completely unsuitable roads and suffering from broken radiators, cracked gearbox castings, cracked sumps and body panel damage. Tighter controls are beginning to weed out the elements of fraud but it is widespread, deep rooted and may take a lengthy period to eradicate totally.

The meeting was brought to a close by Billy Rautenbach, managing director of Volvo Bus & Truck, the Johannesburg based subsidiary of Volvo Bus Corporation. He announced the company had completed the building and delivery of 600 units last year and was working to fulfill a perceived potential of 4,000 units for delivery into South Africa and neighbouring countries, particularly Zimbabwe, which he believed was looking at 500 units.

He said that there were still a great number of poor roads around, but now the old administration had fallen away, and with it the restrictions on movement of people, a great emphasis was being placed on improving the transport infrastructure. Despite this the changes would not be fast enough to accommodate a complete change to modern vehicles and he still saw a buoyant market for simple, front engined 65 seaters, without air conditioning, capable of dealing with varied road surfaces or even a complete lack of road in some areas. These, he believed could be assembled and bodied locally without too many problems. The company had already established a body building facility which catered for its own needs and while it only had the capacity to body Volvo chassis at present he envisaged the need to encompass other makes as the business grew and staff skill levels improved.

In relation to the current market in South Africa, he felt the new B7R would be ideally suited as an inter-urban bus but that the front engined B7 would remain the top seller for now. He thought there could be a market for double deckers but feared taxi-buses would compete too strongly for the bulk sector of passenger transport, making them a risky investment.

South Africa, it seems, offers a wealth of opportunity for both manufacturers and operators. The risks for the operator are still high and establishing services is not a move for the faint hearted. If the reforms and promised enforcement of regulations can be implemented then the situation will be vastly improved.

By Martin Cole.

SPECIFICATION

Engine: Volvo D7 six cylinder four-stroke diesel with direct fuel injection and overhead valves

Power output: D7B230 Intercooler: 169Kw (230bhp) at 2,200 rpm.

Torque 825Nm at 1,600 rpm. DB7260

Intercooler: 191Kw (260bhp) at 2,200 rpm.

Torque 1,100Nm at 1,300 rpm. **DB7285 Intercooler**: 210Kw (285 bhp) at 2,200 rpm. Torque 1200Nm at 1,400 rpm.

Length:11.875m with 6.3m wheelbase.

Front Overhang: 2.5m.
Rear Overhang: 3.075m.

Turning Circle: 10.315m. WEIGHTS

Front axle: 1125Kg Rear axle: 4385Kg Chassis weight: 5510Kg.

Frame Height (with 295/80R22.5 tyres.)

Ground to top of frame at front axle: 898mm
Ground to top of lowered entry

at front door: 718mm Ground to top of frame at rear axle: 898mm.

Options include: cyclone air filter, spare wheel, lowered frame, exhaust brake, starter heater, water separator, speed limiter, engine encapsulation and ABS anti-skid brakes.



Kirkby Spring Show '97

Visitors to Kirkby's Spring Show held over a three day period last week will have been impressed with the breadth of products and services promoted and the manner in which they were displayed. There was something for everyone whether their interest was buying new or used buses, coaches or minibuses, or simply keeping the existing fleet on the road. To enliven the proceedings a band played, caricaturists produced pictures of guests, there was the chance to ride in a rocket ship and the catering facilities were excellent. Visitors registering were given a coloured plan of the site indicating the various attractions and were offered the opportunity to join a guided tour of the Plaxton Parts and Service workshops as well as Plaxton's small vehicle production facility.



A Dennis Javelin GX with Plaxton Excalibur coachwork. This vehicle had a rear continental door and sunken toilet but mid mounted units will soon become available.

Kirkby's portfolio includes the Dennis and Volvo chassis marques with Plaxton coachwork, and, in a recent development, bus operators can also visit the location to inspect vehicles from the Plaxton and Northern Counties bus ranges. Both aspects of the operation were represented and appeared to be generating a considerable

amount of interest. Demonstration drives were offered in a wide range of new Dennis and Volvo coaches with Plaxton coachwork, as well as Beaver and Beaver 2 minibuses on Mercedes chassis, the Beaver 2 being the Ogle inspired design recently introduced on the Mercedes Benz Vario. Representatives from Dennis, Volvo and Plaxton were present throughout as were the entire Kirkby Coach & Bus, Roadlease Finance and Kirkby Rental sales teams.

New vehicles available for inspection included coaches which had been sold and painted in the customers livery. One of these was a Dennis Javelin Plaxton Premiere 320 for Jamiesons Coaches of Shetland, thought to be the most northerly user of Plaxton



Plaxton now has a bus sales office at Anston and a variety of the available products were displayed.



Plaxton's attractive new Beaver 2 body on the Mercedes Benz Vario.



Among the coaches to be seen in the marquee was this Excalibur B10M for Atkinsons of Ingleby Arncliffe who celebrate 75 years in the industry in 1997.

coachwork. Mr Jamieson was present to accept the 57 seater. A number of new coaches were displayed in a specially erected marquee. One of interest was a 51/53 seat Javelin GX Excalibur for Tudor Coaches of Great Casterton with full air conditioning and a rear sunken toilet. An order for a similar coach for OK Luxury of Ulster was taken while during the show, while Moores of Congleton purchased a Premiere bodied GX. Recent changes to the enable a centre sunken toilet layout to be offered for the first time. An Excalibur on the Volvo B10M chassis could also be inspected, this time with 49/53 seats and painted in the colours of Atkinsons of Ingleby Arncliffe. Bakers of Biddulph's green livery was carried by a 49 seat Premiere 350 bodied Volvo B10M, one of four Kirkby are supplying to the operator. Volvo sales during the event included two Excalibur B10Ms to Dovers Coaches of Hetton-le-Hole.

For those who wanted to try the B10M and Javelin on the road there was a selection of demonstration coaches which had been given attractive vinyl applications. They included Premiere 350 and Excalibur bodied B10Ms and Premiere 320 and Excalibur bodied Javelins. These and a new Beaver 2 on the Mercedes Benz Vario were often to be seen leaving the display area with operators at the wheel.

For bus operators there was the chance to look over both 10 and 10.6 metre versions of the Dennis Dart SLF with examples for Watford & District and Maidstone & District being shown, offering maximum passengers capacities of 59 and 64 respectively.

There was a Dennis Lance Northern Counties Paladin single decker in stock white and, for the first two days of the show, a dual door Palatine 1 bodied Volvo Olympian double decker for London General. Also shown were Beaver bodies on the Mercedes Benz 811D and 709D.

Used coaches ranging from double deck Neoplan Skyliners to a 1995 Volvo B6R Caetano Algarve were shown, nearly all of them dating from the late 'eighties or later. There was a wide selection of Volvos and a much smaller number of other types, with perhaps surprisingly few Dennis Javelins given that Kirkby distribute the type. Customers snapped up no less than seven former Wallace Arnold B10Ms with various body styles.

Definitely not for sale among the coaches was one, just as smartly presented as the new coaches, that originated in an earlier era. This was a Harrington Wayfarer body on the prototype Seddon MK19 chassis, the only example of this AEC powered model to be sold in the UK market. New to Liss & District in 1959 it was taken in part



Thought to be the northernmost operator of Plaxton coaches is Jamiesons of Shetland for whom this Dennis Javelin with 57 seat Plaxton Premiere 320 coachwork is destined.

exchange by Kirkbys in 1961 and sold to Thornes of Bubwith who operated it until 1971. It stood in the open for the following 18 years before complete restoration by the company, a repaint by Plaxton Parts & Service and the replacement of the 410 engine with a 505. It now features full air brakes rather than the original Hydrovec system and is thought to be the oldest used vehicle supplied by Kirkby still in everyday use.

The show's usefulness to operators was increased by the presence of a number of leading suppliers of equipment and services who exhibited in a dedicated display area. These included Sutrak Autosound, Technics, Shades Tyre-Line/Alcoa, Telma, Eastgate Coach Trimmers, MTB Equip-



The oldest coach displayed was this restored 1959 Seddon MK19 with Harrington Wayfarer coachwork owned by Thornes of Bubwith.



A wide variety of used vehicles was on offer.



Rythmn De-Luxe, Kirkby's wandering minstrels.

ment, Chapman Stevens and John Holdsworth & Co.

With well over 500 visitors over the three days the event was clearly a great success. When I spoke to Kirkby general manager, Glynn McKenzie, he commented, 'It's been excellent. Operators have come from every corner of the country. We've also seen a lot of people who haven't been to Kirkby for many years and I'm delighted that so many operators have taken the time to come and have a look at us.'

He explained that the purpose of holding the show was, 'To make the industry aware of just what is available on this site at Anston. Obviously we want to sell coaches,' he said, 'But we also want to show the facilities, the finance packages, rental packages, Plaxton Parts & Service, Bus & Coach Glazing, and so on.'

Glynn felt that visitors had welcomed the opportunity to tour the workshops and the production facilities for the Beaver and Beaver 2. Among the vehicles receiving attention in the workshops were National Expressliners which had returned off lease. Operators were obviously impressed with what they saw because one placed an order for five.

By lunch time on the third day of the show vehicles worth £4 million had been sold, excluding rental deals. Overall a total of 40 vehicles, 18 of them new, found new owners. Although pleased with new sales Glynn was finding a welcome degree of buoyancy in the used market. 'I've been delighted with sales of three and four year old vehicles this year, not just at the show, we're ahead of budgeted figures,' he commented.

By Stuart Jones.

Think BIG urge Scania

'Think Big' has been the recent message from Scania Bus & Coach UK Ltd as it encourages operators to consider the merits of the three axle Scania K113TRB with Spanish built Irizar Century coachwork. Not that the 3.7 metre high three axle model is the only vehicle the Worksop based dealership has on offer, far from it, visitors to the premises last week were also able to inspect new coachwork from both Van Hool and Irizar on the, as yet, more widely popular two axle version of the Scania K113.

Scania's show was a rather lower key affair than that taking place at the same time a couple of miles down the road, and though the number of people attracted was less in total, the end result in terms of the number of vehicles sold was a pleasant surprise to managing director, Don Macintosh, 'It's been very successful. We've done ten new vehicles we didn't expect to,' he said. Sales of used vehicles appeared on the face of it to have been less overwhelming with two signed for



Two Van Hool Alizee bodied Scania K113s were available for demonstration.

during the show, but with a full diary of appointments generated for the following few weeks he was confident that this side of the business would also have greatly benefitted.

The first thing to catch the eye of most visitors will have been a 'Think Big' slogan adorning the side of a stock three axle Irizar parked in front of the Worksop premis-

es. This was one of four coaches representing the main product offerings which were being used to provide



One of two tri-axle Centuries for Flights.



Think BIG was the message on the side of this tri-axle Irizar Century demonstrator.

demonstration ride and drive facilities. Alongside the two Century K113 variants were a standard UK specification Van Hool Alizee 49/53 seater and an air conditioned 49 seat Alizee. A rather different vehicle was to be seen in the showrooms, a Jordan Formula One racing car as driven by Ralf Schumacher.

Three axles

Scania more than any other supplier to the UK market has taken on board the three axle concept and promoted it. The company enjoyed very considerable success with he model last year and has so far sold around two thirds of what has been ordered for 1997. A number of previous customers have come back for more. Asked whether there



Ralf Schumacher's Jordan racing car was to be seen in the Scania showrooms.



Barnsley based KM Coaches will shortly take delivery of this Van Hool Alizee bodied K113CRB.



The Worksop premises of Scania Bus & Coach UK Ltd.

A broad choice of used vehicle types was on offer.

would be continuing demand for such vehicles following the introduction of the 18 tonne axle limit in a couple of years time, Don was convinced that there would be.

He pointed out that 100% of the vehicles his company supplied last year were double glazed while 74% had air conditioning. 'Operators are looking for larger fuel tanks, larger water tanks and with the improvement in seat design we can comfortably accommodate 51 reclining seats, he said. 'In all probability legislation will soon allow us up to 2.55m wide and 13.5m or even 15.0m long in which case a third axle will become absolutely necessary.' He also pointed to the advantages in luggage capacity of the 3.7m high three axle Century compared with the 3.5m high two axle variant. The former offers 13 cubic metres, the latter 10 cubic metres, although the saloon dimensions are identical.

At present many coaches are right on their legal weight limits. Don suggested that when we eventually do go to 18 tonnes the Ministry will be more concerned with the



weight issue than they perhaps are now. Asked what purposes such vehicles will be put to in later life, he foresees that, 'in time they will cascade and have second lives as people carriers, everything else has and I can't see why they shouldn't.'

Used

Used stock at Worksop is around the 70 vehicle mark and with the exception of two 1983 coaches - a Leyland engined Tiger Paramount and a Volvo engined Royal Tiger Doyen - all of it is 1986 or later. Sales manager, lan

Hall, explained that company policy is to try to avoid trading vehicles which are over 12 years old and the result is that most of that on offer was either late 1980s or early 1990s. A selection of four deckers was shown, among them a pair of Skyliners and a Plaxton Paramount 4000 on both Scania K112TRB and Volvo B10MT chassis.

The company clearly believes in offering as wide as possible a choice of secondhand coaches as was shown by the variety of manufacturer's products available. As well as Scanias with Irizar, Van Hool, Jonckheere, Plax-

ton and Duple coachwork there were coaches from Berkhof, Caetano, Mercedes Benz, LAG, Bova and Setra on offer. Of eleven Plaxton Paramounts in stock, three were on Mercedes Benz 0303 underframes, two were B10Ms, three Scanias, two Leyland Tigers and one DAF.

The decision to hold the show may have been a relatively late one but in attracting operators to the site and boosting sales it achieved its objectives.

By Stuart Jones.



Among a variety of new vehicles shortly to be delivered was this Irizar Century on a tri-axle Scania K113TRB chassis for Williamsons. It is a repeat order.



Among a variety of Plaxton Paramounts on offer were three former kings Ferry Mercedes Benz 0303s.

Fleet Additions



A pair of Scania K113 CRB Irizar Centuries have been acquired by C&G Coaches of Chatteris. Although they carry different liveries their specification is virtually identical and includes air conditioning, 49 reclining seats, rear sunken toilet, driver's bunk, floor safe * and continental door. The coaches join two Centuries already operated by C&G alongside eight other Scanias in the 16 strong fleet. They were supplied by Scania Bus & Coach UK Ltd.



Citylink Porto

A new Caetano Porto coach has been supplied to Owen Coaches of Newhouse, Motherwell by Salvadore Caetano UK Ltd. Mounted on Dennis Javelin 245 chassis, the dual purpose coachwork includes 57 seats, a power operated entrance door, tinted single glazed windows and a Blaupunkt stereo radio/ pa/cassette. The coach will be used on Scottish Citylink services.



Stonehouse Coaches of Stonehouse, Gloucester have acquired a new Volvo B10M Jonckheere Mistral 50 from Yeates Bus & Coach. Its specification includes 49/53 reclining seats with seat belts, centre sunken toilet, continental door, radio/PA/cassette system and curtains.

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British Car Auctions

Fleet Additions

Mistral duo for Compass Royston

The latest coaches to carry the maroon, red and white of Compass Royston Group Travel are a pair of Jonckheere Mistral 50s on the extended wheelbase B10M SE chassis. The Stockton based operator has specified 51 reclining seats, a rear saloon toilet, an offside rear continental door, television, video, radio/PA/cassette, curtains and seatbelts. The duo were supplied by Yeates Bus & Coach





Harrison Group Travel of Doncaster have purchased this Caetano Algarve II bodied MAN 11.190 for use on executive private hire and tour duties. Supplied by Salvador Caetano UK Ltd, the coach seats 35 and has a specification which includes: a courier seat, tinted double glazed side windows, full draw curtains, power entrance door, rear continental door, Blaupunkt stereo radio/PA/cassette and a hot drinks facility.



A new livery style heralds the introduction of the first Volvo B10Ms to join the Mayne of Manchester fleet. Supplied by Kirkby Coach & Bus, the two vehicles, and a pair of identical ones for the associated fleet of Barry Cooper Coaches, have 55 seat Plaxton Premiere Interurban 320 bodies. Mayne's general manager, Gradyn Thompson, commented, 'We run the usual mix of private hires alongside a programme of day excursions and a limited programme of short breaks. For this we need coaches which offer the best balance between comfort and capacity, and the vehicles which Kirkby had on offer filled the bill nicely.'



Rennies of Dunfermline have just placed in service a trio of Iveco EuroRider 391.12.35 chassis with Beulas coachwork, only months after purchasing three Indcar Eco3 bodied Iveco EuroMidi nine metre minicoaches. The EuroRiders have the 350bhp unit which is the larger of the two engine options offered in the UK and Telma retarders, ABS and ASR. Included in the standard Beulas specification are 49 reclining seats, air conditioning, double glazing, dash mounted fridge and ecological toilet. All six new coaches were supplied by the AW Group of Leicester.



Streamline Executive Travel of Maidstone were so impressed with their latest purchase, a Mercedes Benz 711D converted by Crest Conversions, that they ordered another exactly the same. Equipped with 24 seats, the vehicle is being used on contract hires and holiday feeder work to high profile companies.

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1991 VOLVO B10MT JONCKHEERE DEAUVILLE

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13 months MoT, 51 recliners, retarder, toilet, video, fridge, drinks and bunk, good condition, new vehicle forces sale, available 1-3-97 £85 000

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All the above vehicles are subject to to VAT

TELEPHONE: (01443) 682671

NATIONAL MKI. 52 seats. tested May 1997

1975 P REG NATIONAL MKI, LEYLAND 52 seats. tested Sept 1997

1980 DAIMLER FLEETLINE, low height, 75 seat, Alexander body, Gardner 6LX, tested April 1997

£8,000 FOR ALL THREE OR INDIVIDUAL PRICES ON APPLICATION

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£24,500 ono 1 x 53 BEDFORD DOMINANT II

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MoT August 8, '97, curtains to windows, power door £12,000

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MoT July 14, '97, curtains to side windows, power door......£10,000

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with

..£16.000 ono

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x 1983 VOLVO 3200, Webasto, Telma, rear cont door, P/P, recent re-moquette and floor, seat belts, MoT Nov£27,850 ono

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Plastow's Coaches

Tel: 01865 872270 Fax: 01865 875066

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1978 BEDFORD YMT, 53 seater, Plaxton Supreme, fitted seat

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Reeve Burgess conversion, 28/20 + 4 wheelchairs, taxed January 1998, MoT December, approx 80k from new

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sold his **Bedford YNV** after 3 calls in **Bus & Coach Buyer** in the first week

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round, excellent condition

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2 x BEDFORD YNVS 1 1985 PARAMOUNT 3200

Recent engine rebuild, MoT July '97, 57 seat

1 1987 PARAMOUNT 3200

MoT Sept '97, 55 seat £39k + VAT THE PAIR CONSIDER OFFERS, WILL SPLIT

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48 Vogel seats, full exec, cruise control, TV and Video, etc, PP, 1 vears MoT

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Reeve Burgess with h/b coach seats, excellent condition, MoT tested, 12 mths

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1991

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Coach, Reeve Burgess conversion, 23 coach seats with belts, radio/cassette, PA system, p/door, boot, tested till April 98

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Auto, power steering, genuine 58,000 miles, warranted mls, only by one local council, rear boot, side skirts, full PSV test, high back seafs with 3 point belts, full soft trim, full stereo system, very rare with this mileage, very desirable coach, drives like new

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Set 1 Onlineses, 1 owner, low
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1987 D FREIGHT ROVER SHERPA CARLYLE MARK II, 16-seat coach, green moquette, high-back seats with three point height adjustable belts, large luggage pens at rear, driver's locker, saloon heater, power door, one only at inst



1988 (E) IVECO 49.10 TURBO DAILY, ROBIN HOOD BODYWORK, 5 speed manual, 23 or 25 seats, power doors, luggage pens, limited choice, price includes all usual preparation plus a fully reconditioned engine with 12 months unlimited mileage warranty,......just £6,495 each

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1978 S BRISTOL LHS6L/PLAXTON SUPREME, 31 reclining seat coach 1981/2 X LEYLAND CUB DUPLE DOMINANT, 31-seat buses, Allison autos

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1987 E MCW METRORIDER, 23-seat bus

1980 W MERCEDES 508D, 19-seat coach conversion

1991 H IVECO NEW GENERATION PHOENIX, 23-seat buses

1988 F TOYOTA SPACECRUISER 8-SEAT PEOPLE CARRIER, warranted low mileage

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A	1995 MERCEDES-BENZ 814D AUTOBUS CLASSIQUE, 29 seats, express pow and diagonal belts, rear boot, radio/PA, 58,000 miles, tested Jan '98	£42,500
R	(K) REG FORD TRANSIT DIESEL, new generation, 15 seater, belts, test Sept 1991 DAF 400 DIESEL, h/roof, luxury 16 seater, lap belts, test Feb '98	£7,950
R	1990 RENAULT TRAFIC, Diesel, 11 seater, s/door, belts, test Oct '97	tracks, test
-	1989 (G) MERCEDES-BENZ 308D, Diesel, 14-seater, h/roof, s/door, lap belt	s, test Sept
A	1989 (G) FORD TRANSIT PETROL DORMOBILE, 16 seater, h/b seats, lap & dia test Sept '97	£7.750
G	1987 (E) FREIGHT ROVER, Crystals, 16-str. h/roof, tested, repain white, test Fe 1987 (D) REG IVECO 70/14 CAETANO VIANNA, 25 seats, p/door, tr/entrance, rear boot, forced ventilation, test May '97.	seat belts,
E	1987 TALBOT EXPRESS, Diesel, MTM, 14 seater, belts, test April '97	£2,750 £3,500
W	1984 MERCEDES BENZ 307D REEVE BURGESS, 12 seater, PSV, but has class fitted Telma retarder	V test, 1997, £2,000
A	NON PSV	
A	1990 (H) FORD TRANSIT, petrol, factory 15 seater, test Jan '98	£4,950
Y	1988 FREIGHT ROVER 200 DIESEL, 8 seater, new engine, Dec '96, MoT Feb 1982 BEDFORD CF MINIBUS, good condition	'97 £1,750 £550
S	Tel: (01234) 740057 (Bedford) or (0831) 372763 FRANK CHANDLER 24 CHRIS CHANDLER 0378 446865 (Mobile)	
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1987 OPTARE CITY PACER, 5 speed manual, 25 DP seats, MoT Oct '97. **£4,500** + **VAT. Tel: 01288** 352427. 400/1603/MB

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1983 TRANSIT DIESEL, 16 seater or wheelchairs and seats, lift at rear, tested until May.OFFERS. RING (01455 273140 (LEICESTER AREA).

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16 seater coach, petrol engine, seat belts, tax & MoT Aug '97.

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MERCEDES 410D 1994 (L) 15 SEAT LUXURY MINICOACH, dealer serviced, 3 point inertia seatbelts, many refinements, excellent condition, £18,950 ono + VAT. Tel: 01522 810262. 400/1503/MC

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1984, 49 fixed seats, centre sunken nearside toilet. retrimmed recently tested until March '98. excellent condition MUST BE SOLD! £37,500

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1995 M VOLVO B10M (SIDE RADIATOR) VAN **HOOL ALIZEE HE**

102,000 kms, tested April 1997, will retest if required, mint condition inside retest if required, mint condition inside and out, only used on non-smoking tours and private hire, NO footballs or shuttles etc. Exterior white, interior graffiti grey incl parcel racks. 49/53 seats, demountable centre sunken toilet, water boiler, radio/cassette/PA, wired for TV/video, magazine nets, full draw curtains, stair and centre carpets & alarm extern. alarm system.

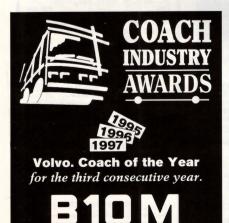
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53 seats. 1986, excellent condition, newly resprayed, MoT 8/10/97, radio/PA

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VOLVO

VOLVO B10M PLAXTON PARA-MOUNT 3500, rear toilet, curtains, TV/video, radio/PA, Telma, new stretch panels (PP), MK IV Para-mount front and rear bumpers, excellent condition, MoT Aug/97, will MoT for 12 months if required. £32,500. 01495 722555. 89 PP VOLVO VAN HOOL 53 + COURIER, retrimmed seats, in grey graffiti, blinds, DG, seatbelts, Telma and autolube, first to see will buy. Part ex for minibus considered, £74,500 + VAT ovno. Tel: 0131 333 5453

1980 B58 VOLVO, 49 SEATS. **DUPLE DOMINANT**, wired for TV/ video, 2 tables, drinks machine courier seat, MoT August 1997. £10,000 + VAT. Tel: 01792 846570 (Mon-Thurs). 400/6682/\/0

VOLVO B10M 1983 JONCKHEERE P599 SUPER HIGH, 53 reclining seats + courier, curtains, Telma, radio/PA, wired for TV and video, MoT'd until Feb 1998. £28,500 + VAT. 0181 897 2021. Mobile 0956 634852 400/6896/VO

1988 B10M PARAMOUNT 3200, low driver, 53 recliners plus courier, curtains, double glazed, Telma tested to November. £59,500 PLUS VAT. SHAWS OF MAXEY 01778 342224 400/6934/VO

79 seater D/D bus, Alexander, V reg£3,950

57 seater Viewmaster, recent retrim, P plate £8,750 49 seater Caribbean 2, B10M, 1985, MoT June, WC, recent retrim

May take Mercedes 19-25 seater in part ex on any of these vehicles

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1988 VOLVO B10M. Plaxton Paramount 3200, 53R seats, 12 months MoT

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Both vehicles in good order No reasonable offer refused

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VOLVO B10M P90

58 seater, full exec, TV/video, 1 yrs MoT, clean vehicle £30,000 + VAT

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1987 VOLVO B10M

Plaxton 3500 Mark III, 53r, rear cont door, full draw curtains, seat belts, fitted, radio PA, regularly maintained, overall excellent condition, second owner from new, MoT 8 '97

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49 seater executive, wired for TV/video, fridge, toilet, centre continental door, seat belts, resprayed all white, well shod, engine kit fitted two years ago, very good order throughout, PP worth £1,000, years MOT

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1994 VOLVO B6 CAETANO AL-GARVE, 34 reclining seats, radio, PA, cassette, microphone, driver operated continental door, tinted windows, Peage window, double glazing, seat belts. Tel: 01509 217777 Extension 2109.

VOLVO B10M VAN HOOL, 1986, private plate, 50 recliners, with rear toilet, water boiler, Telma, TV and video. MoT April '98. Part exchange considered. 01475 783399 or 01475 744233 (SCOT-LAND).

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400/6926/WA

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3 2 49

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MoT 6/97 £22,500

1 x 3.5 as above, MoT

4/97.....£25,500

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WANTED SET OF 53 PLAXTON

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1991 TOYOTA OPTIMO II CAE-TANO, 18 reclining seats, radio, PA, driver operated door, retarder, tinted windows, curtains, crew seat and hot water boiler. Tel: 01509 217777 Extension 2109.

1991 J REG TOYOTA OPTIMO II 21 SEATER, TV/video, drinks, MoT March/98, rebuilt engine. £24,950. 01942 243167

1990 OPTIMO, 18 reclining seats, radio/PA, tinted windows, crew seat, table, hot drinks machine, full MoT, £15,250 + VAT. Tel: 0181 952 4025 or 0836 322 755.

SCANIA

1985 SCANIA 112 **JONCKHEERE**

Tel: 01703 406628

JOHN REES

01209 717152.

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1986 LEYLAND TIGER FITTED VOLVO ENGINE B10M BERKHOF EVEREST, 49 exec, MoT 6/97

1984 VOLVO B10M DUPLE CARIBBEAN. 53 seats + toilet and drinks, MoT 2/98.....£24,000

1983 MAN VAN HOOL ASTRON, 60 seats, full exec, MoT 10/97 1984 VOLVO B10M VAN HOOL

ROOAJEN ODYSSEY, 49 seater exec, MoT 8/97£28,650 ONO

1984 VOLVO B10M VAN HOOL ASTROL, 58 seater, full exec, MoT 8/97.... £27,850 1981 LEYLAND LEOPARD, gearbox, 53 seater, Dominant V, MoT

1983 VOLVO B10M BERKHOF, 49 seate full exec. MoT 7/97. ...£24,500

1988 MERCEDES CHARISMA, 49 seater £33,500 exec. MoT 2/98...

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53/57 reclining seats with belts, odicker space, one year's MoT

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1995 M SCANIA K113 TRB IRIZAR CENTURY 3.7 3 AXLE, 49 recliners, air con, fridge, TV/video, drivers bunk, radio/PA/cassette

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1990 G SCANIA K113 VAN HOOL ALIZEE, 49 seats + c, toilet, TV/video, drivers bunk,



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NEW SCANIA K113 CRB VAN HOOL ALIZEE. 49 recliners + toilet with or without air con

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NEW SCANIA L113 CRL WRIGHTS ACCESS ULTRA LOW - LOW FLOOR SERVICE BUS. 47 seats

USED VOLVO

1993 VOLVO B10M JONCKHEERE DEAUVILLE, 49 seats + c, toilet,

1990 VOLVO B10MT VAN HOOL ALIZEE SH, 49 recliners + c, TV/Video, bunk, drinks, fridge,

1987 D VOLVO B10M JONCKHEERE P599, 51 recliners, toilet, drinks machine, TV/Video,

radio/PA/cassette

1987 D VOLVO JONCKHEERE P50,

10 a linem toilet drinks machine, TV/video,

NEW SCANIA K113 TRB IRIZAR CENTURY 3.7 (3 AXLE). 51 recliners + Air con + Fridge + TV/Video etc

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BOVA FUTURA FHD

49 reclining seats with seat belts, centre sunken toilet, fridge, water boiler, continental door, Futurair air conditioning, carpets, ZF retarder. Interior — grey/red/blue; Exterior — white.

1996 (P) BOVA FUTURA FHDL, 49/53 reclining seats, centre sunken demountable toilet, continental door, water boiler, fridge, double glazed side windows, air conditioning, carpets. Interior — red. MoT July 1997

1994 BOVA FUTURA FHD, 49 reclining seats, centre sunken toilet, water boiler, fridge, continental door, double glazed side windows, aircraft type luggage racks, air conditioning. Interior — grey.

1994 BOVA FUTURA FHD, 51/55 reclining seats, centre sunken demountable toilet, continental door, double glazed side windows, driver's bunk. Interior — grey; Exterior — white. MoT January 1998

1993 DAF 3000 SB CAETANO ALGARVE, 49/51 reclining seats, demountable toilet, continental door, wired for video/monitor. Interior — red; Exterior cream/red/gold. MoT December 1997

1992 VOLVO B10M VAN HOOL ALIZEE DH, 48 reclining seats, rear toilet, continental door, servery — incorporating boiler & fridge, double glazed, wired for video/monitor. Interior — blue/grey; Exterior — silver. MoT October 1997

1992 TOYOTA OPTIMO, 18 reclining seats. Interior — grey/red. MoT December 1997

1992 BOVA FUTURA FHD, 49/53 reclining seats, centre sunken demountable toilet, continental door, water boiler, wired for video, driver's bunk. Interior — grey/red; Exterior — white, MoT December 1997



VOLVO B10M GL WITH VAN HOOL ALIZEE H LUXURY COACHWORK

Centre sunken toilet, continental door, fridge, boiler, double glazing, air conditioning. Interior — grey/red; Exterior — white.

1990 NEOPLAN SKYLINER MERCEDES V8 ENGINE MANUAL GEAR BOX, 77 reclining seats, toilet, fridge, water boiler. Interior — red; Exterior — white. MoT November 1997

1989 VOLVO B10M PLAXTON PARAMOUNT 3500, 57 seats, power door, Telma retarder. Interior — autumn tint; Exterior — white/orange. MoT January 1998

1989 LEYLAND DAF, 16 moquette seats. Interior — autumn tint; Exterior — white. MoT August 1997

1989 BOVA FUTURA FHD, 53/57 reclining seats, centre sunken demountable toilet, continental door, fridge, water boiler. Interior — autumn tint; Exterior — white

1989 LAG PANORAMIC, 49 reclining seats, centre sunken toilet, continental door, wired for video & monitor. Interior — grey; Exterior — white. MoT June 1997

1988 DAF DKFL CAETANO ALGARVE. 53 reclining seats, continental door. Interior autumn tint; exterior — white. MoT September 1997

1988 CHARISMA, 49 reclining seats, centre sunken toilet, continental door, double glazed side windows, air conditioning. Interior — grey/red; Exterior — white. MoT July 1997

1988 DAF DKFL CAETANO ALGARVE, 51 reclining seats, rear sunken toilet, continental door, water boiler, wired for video/monitor. Interior — red; Exterior — white. MoT May 1997

1986 BOVA FUTURA FHD, 49 reclining seats, rear floor level toilet, fridge, water boiler, double glazed side windows, wired for video/monitor, Interior — grey/red; Exterior — white. MoT August 1996

1985 NEOPLAN SKYLINER, Mercedes engine, manual gearbox, 75 reclining seats, toilet, fridge, water boiler, TELMA retarder. Interior — red; Exterior — white. MoT January 1998

1985 LEYLAND TIGER DUPLE 340, 48 reclining seats, rear sunken toilet, continental door. Interior — autumn tint; Exterior — white. MoT January 1998

1984 BOVA FUTURA FHD, 49 reclining seats, centre sunken toilet, continental door, double glazing, wired for video/monitor. Interior — grey/maroon; Exterior — white. MoT May 1997

1984 VOLVO B10M BERKHOF EVEREST, 51 reclining seats, floor level toilet. Interior — autumn tint; Exterior — white. MoT July 1997

1983 VOLVO B.58 11 MTR PLAXTON PARAMOUNT 3200 (RE-BODIED), 48 seats. Interior — autumn tint: Exterior — cream/green. MoT April 1997

1983 DAF DKTL CAETANO ALPHA, 53 reclining seats, power operated entrance door. Interior — autumn tint; exterior — white/yellow. MoT April 1997

1981 VOLVO B58 PLAXTON SUPREME
11 MTR, 53 seats, power door. Interior
— autumn tint; Exterior —
cream/orange. MoT January 1998

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1993 K VOLVO B6 CAETANO ALGARVE, 35 seats, d/glazed rear cont door, radio, PA double glazed, MoT Jan 97

1991 J IVECO 4910, Mellor coach built, 12 seats/6 wheelchairs, MoT Oct '97
1991 H TOYOTA OPTIMO MKII, 17/21 seats, demountable toilet, 130,000 miles, MoT May

'97 1990 H MERCEDES 811D, PMT, AMI, coach built, 33 seats, luggage racks, power door,

radio, white/red exterior, long MoT

1989 G IVECO 49.10, Robin Hood, 23/25 seats, luggage pen, power door, choice of 5 1987 E OPTARE CITY PACER 2.5 TURBO, 25 coach seats, power door, white exterior, MoT May '97

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